

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby amends Chapter 21, “Community Colleges,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Following the removal in 2006 of the accreditation rules from this chapter into then-new 281—Chapter 24, this chapter of rules has undergone a general comprehensive review involving the following stakeholder groups: Iowa Association of Community College Presidents (IACCP), Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT), Community College Chief Academic Officers, Iowa Arts and Sciences Administrators (IASA), Community College Career and Technical Deans/Directors, Iowa State Education Association (ISEA), Community College Continuing Education Deans/Directors, Community College Business Officers, Community College Human Resource Directors, Iowa Community College Student Services Administrators (ICSSA), Community College Faculty Advisory Committee, Community College Accreditation Advisory Committee, and Community College Professional Development Advisory Committee.

These amendments update language, provide greater detail for the various available degree requirements, and align the chapter with statutory changes made to licensure of community college staff and the new Senior Year Plus Program legislation in Iowa Code chapter 261E. The rules in Division VII (rules 281—21.57(260C) to 281—21.63(260C)) and Division VIII (rules 281—21.64(260C) to 281—21.71(260C)) are stricken because of statutory repeals. There are no substantive amendments adopted herein.

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the December 16, 2009, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 8390B**. A public hearing was held on January 12, 2010, and public comments were allowed until close of business on that same date. No one appeared at the public hearing. One written comment was received from a community college administrator critical of the statement in paragraphs “d” and “e” of subrule 21.2(9) that the technical specialty component of the AAS and AAA degrees must constitute no less than 50 percent of the course credits. The commenter believes that communication or humanities courses, rather than technical specialty component courses, should constitute the majority of the course credits. After discussing the issue, the Department has determined that the language proposed shall not be changed. The requirement that the technical specialty component of the AAS and AAA degrees must constitute no less than 50 percent of the course credits is a longstanding department policy about which no concerns have been communicated from the field.

These amendments are identical to those published under Notice.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 260C.

These amendments will become effective May 12, 2010.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Pursuant to recommendation of the Administrative Rules Review Committee published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, September 10, 1986, the text of these amendments [amendments to Ch 21] is being omitted. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice as **ARC 8390B**, IAB 12/16/09.

[Filed 3/11/10, effective 5/12/10]

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[For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 4/7/10.]